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2
3 IN RE THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE)

4 CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM)

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9 PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

10 PUBLIC SPEAKERS PORTION

11
12 Encinitas City Council Chambers

13 505 South Vulcan Avenue

14 Encinitas, California

15
16 Tuesday, May 12, 1998, at 7:15 p.m.

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20 REPORTED BY: MELINI A. CARREON, CSR NO. 7511

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Department of Water Resources

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1	SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS:	PAGE:
2	Mr. Larson	4
3	Mr. Wolk	6
4	Mr. McCollom	8
5	Ms. Omsted	9
6	Mr. Haring	11
7	Mr. Peugh	13
8	Ms. Sullivan	16
9	Ms. Chase	18
10	Mr. Childs	23
11	Mr. DiBella	24
12	Mr. Bond	27
13	Ms. Villagrana	29
14	Mr. Stadler	31
15	Mr. Arakawa	33
16	Mr. Campbell	36
17	Mr. Hargis	39
18	Mr. Shillington	41
19	Mr. Tolley	43
20	Mr. Lichty	45
21	Ms. Michel	46

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1 (Public speakers portion of the proceedings beginning at
2 7:15 p.m.)

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4 MR. BODOVITZ: The first card we have is
5 from Eric Larson of the Farm Bureau, followed by
6 Charley Wolk of the San Diego County Farm Bureau, followed
7 by David McCollom.

8 Mr. Larson.

9 MR. LARSON: Thank you. Yes, my name is
10 Eric Larson with the San Diego County Farm Bureau.

11 On this issue, we've got several items that
12 are important to the farmers, specifically in San Diego
13 County, that we hope were paid attention to.

14 First, of course, is price sensitivity.

15 In San Diego County, as you're all aware,
16 we're paying very high prices for water here, so whatever
17 solution is found, we're very price sensitive to the
18 farmers in San Diego County; certainly willing to pay our
19 fair share, but we strongly believe that the selected
20 solution must be paid for by all stakeholders, and that's
21 virtually everyone in the state of California will have
22 some -- some value from -- from the solution, so we think
23 that's very important.

24 Water quality, there must be extremely high
25 water quality out of the project. We're very dependent

PAGE 5

1 here in Southern California on Colorado River water, but
2 as farmers, that water does cause some grief for us, with
3 the salinity, and we do need high quality water coming
4 from Northern California to blend with the Colorado River
5 water, so we need to have that -- that -- that quality of
6 the water from Northern California must be of -- of --
7 must be very, very good. If not, we're then forced to use
8 more water than we might want to, simply so that we can
9 leach out those salts that we have in the soil, and then
10 there's a no-net gain for us.

11 Ag here in San Diego is quite different.
12 Price has created real -- has -- has created economies of
13 use here. We've become very efficient with the water
14 we -- we use, so any standards for efficient agricultural
15 use or required reductions would -- would be hard for us
16 to achieve, because we already have done significant
17 reductions in our water use in San Diego County.

18 And finally, of course, supply reliability.
19 If we don't meet the supply reliability, we're in trouble,
20 because we're smart enough to recognize that if the price
21 goes up, because there's insufficient supply or there's
22 competition for the water, we're not going to be a very
23 good competitor in the price market, and we might be the
24 first ones to have to leave the market, and we'd certainly
25 hate to see that happen.

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PAGE 6

1 Thank you.

2 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Larson.
3 Charley Wolk, David McCollon, and Anne Onsted.
4 MR. WOLK: My name is Charley Wolk.

5 And as you know, we're at the end of the pipe,
6 so to speak. 95 percent of our water is imported here in
7 this County, and because we're at the end of the pipe, I
8 wanted to express some of our views that -- of things that
9 are happening in -- in perspectives from the other part of
10 the state, that we believe will impact us down here.

11 First of all, I know there was a comment made
12 that the -- talking about taking the ag land out of
13 production in order to gain some of the water. It -- it
14 was mentioned that it was taken out, and we just want to
15 reemphasize that, from our perspective down here in
16 San Diego County -- although nobody is looking at our ag
17 land -- that we're very -- we're very much concerned
18 that -- that a solution would propose to take agricultural
19 land out of production in order to gain water.

20 We -- we think the -- the -- the process, as
21 it goes through to completion, has got to protect all
22 water rights, both riparian and surface water rights,
23 groundwater rights, because the protection of -- of those
24 rights is -- is going to enhance the availability of water
25 in the long term, and of course, from our perspective,

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PAGE 7

1 there's always the opportunities for water transfers, and
2 if -- if the CALFED solution jeopardizes those water
3 rights, we believe that it's going to impact the
4 ability -- ability to negotiate water transfers.

5 I think it's obvious that -- that a solution
6 is going to have to include water storage, surface water
7 storage. I don't see any way, no matter how efficient it
8 gets, in -- in terms of the transfer and the moving of the
9 water to the rest of the state, that -- there has to be
10 surface water storage, both on stream and off stream.

11 I -- I think it's significant that
12 Marc Reisner has finally come to that conclusion, that his
13 criticism of surface storage in the State of California
14 has been changed recently, and I think that's an
15 indicate -- at least to me, from watching his -- his role,
16 after he wrote the "Cadillac Desert."

17 Not only do we -- we believe that we have to
18 have the storage, but we think that everybody has got to
19 pay their fair share, and -- and if the demand for more
20 water in the State of California is being caused by urban
21 growth, then those are the people that -- that are going
22 to have to pay, and -- and we realize and expect that --
23 that agriculture, if they gain benefits from storage or
24 other parts of the project, that they also would have to
25 pay their fair share.

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PAGE 8

1 I mention ag -- ag land con -- conversion, and
2 the last thought on that is that when -- as the
3 environmental review process goes forward, we believe it's
4 extremely important that -- that the environmental review
5 take a very, very close look at the -- both the economic
6 impact and the social impact of taking ag land out of
7 production, and the reason we feel so strongly about it
8 down here is that we believe that -- that what happens on
9 the -- on the Bay-Delta will tend to be a -- a standard
10 for other activities and transactions in the State.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Wolk.
13 David McCollon, Anne Onsted, Ted Haring.

14 MR. MCCOLLON: My name is David McCollon.
15 I'm speaking on behalf of the Olivenhain Water District
16 and Encinitas.

17 Olivenhain Water District has gone on record
18 to support alternative three as a preferred alternative.
19 Alternative three provides the most opportunity for repair
20 of sagging fisheries in the Delta, provides the most
21 options for improving water quality, maintains the
22 operational flexibility for appropriate management of the
23 resources, and it's important to note that we're not
24 running out of water in California; we're running out of
25 the ability to manage the resources, and our -- our future

8

1 operational people will need that flexibility to manage an
2 ecosystem as complicated as the Delta.

3 We think that it's time to emphatically
4 address a solution for not just stakeholders but all
5 Californians, and all Californians should be stakeholders
6 in the Delta, because of its -- its significance to
7 California not only environmentally, economically, but as
8 a water source that will be provided for the future of
9 our -- our state and all of its users.

10 And Mr. Breitenbach asked about the issue of
11 "Who are the stakeholders," "Who should pay," and "Who
12 should benefit," and clearly all Californians are
13 stakeholders.

14 The -- the solutions are before us, and we
15 urge you to rapidly move forward so that a master plan can
16 be developed and the Delta, indeed, can be improved and
17 managed for the next 30 years.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you.

20 Ms. Orsted, followed by Ted Haring, followed
21 by Jim P-e-u-g-h of San Diego Audubon.

22 MS. ORSTED: Hi. I'm Anne Orsted. I'm
23 asked to give this statement to you by the League of Women
24 Voters of San Diego County.

25 Thank you for taking the trouble to hold

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1 hearings throughout California on this very important
2 issue. The league is very much in favor of public input
3 being as accessible as possible, and you certainly have
4 attempted to do that, and we wanted to also thank you for
5 recently extending the public comment period by another
6 30 days. We had asked you to do that, and of course you
7 did it just because we asked you. We know that.

8 The ability of various public groups to study,
9 debate, and comment on this draft EIR/EIS often takes more
10 time than originally allowed, and we appreciate your
11 making more time available for this process.

12 Here in San Diego County we have long been
13 dependent on imported water to meet almost all of our
14 urban, industrial, and agricultural needs. We're also an
15 area of incredible biological diversity.

16 Various public agencies within San Diego
17 County have developed a remarkable plan, the
18 Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Program, the
19 M.S.C.P., as we fondly call it, in order to develop a core
20 area of land where endangered and thriving species can
21 successfully co-exist. We are, in short, striving here to
22 balance the needs of a growing population and the
23 environment.

24 We believe that the CALFED process is also
25 trying to achieve a balance for Calif -- excuse me. I

10

1 have a throat problem -- for California.

2 Of the three options discussed in the draft
3 EIR/EIS, the first alter -- or alternative is the least
4 structural, and perhaps with more analysis of
5 conservation, reclamation, land retirement, and other
6 reasonable ways to manipulate the State's water supply, it
7 can evolve into an acceptable alternative.

8 We recognize the need for taking a new
9 approach to water supply in our state and applaud the
10 CALFED process, but we urge you to take the time to study
11 nonstructural approaches to managing our water. The
12 league believes that in the long-run such approaches are
13 better for people and the environment -- excuse me -- and
14 are less costly, too.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you very much.

17 Ted Haring; Jim Peugh, if I'm pronouncing it
18 correctly, and Norma Sullivan.

19 MR. HARING: Good evening. My name is
20 Ted Haring, and I represent Eastern Municipal Water
21 District.

22 Eastern is a member agency of Metropolitan
23 Water District of Southern California, and we serve about
24 400,000 residents in a 555 square mile of western
25 Riverside County.

11

1 Traditionally, because of the lack of usable
2 groundwater, we have served our customers with a mix of
3 imported water and local groundwater. However, over the
4 long haul, the fact is that we will always be heavily
5 reliant on imported water, despite our best efforts to the
6 contrary, which include aggressive, award-winning
7 conservation programs and extensive recycled water
8 distribution.

9 We are unlikely to see any significant
10 increases in Colorado River avail -- water availability,
11 in light of new demands of other users within California's
12 entitlement and of the states, among the seven, which draw
13 upon the Colorado. That leaves Northern California and
14 the Sacramento, San Joaquin Delta.

15 We recognize the critical nature of the Delta
16 and the obligation to meet the needs of plants, fish, and
17 animals, as well as the needs of people. However, we
18 believe all these needs can reasonably be met if the
19 proper approach is taken. We view that approach as
20 CALFED's alternative three, which not only addresses
21 current, critical problems but improves upon the present
22 operation and structure.

23 In particular, we strongly support the concept
24 of a new isolated channel that would move water beyond the
25 amount that actually flows through the Delta. This

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1 approach is especially important from both a water quality
2 and water supply standpoint.

3 Increasingly, water quality has become a major
4 issue. The State Department of Health Services study
5 released earlier this spring warning of the dangers of
6 trihalomethanes is but one of these examples.

7 Delta water is especially susceptible to the
8 formation of T.H.M.s because of the organic matter and
9 traces of salt water that it contains. An isolated
10 channel could overcome that problem.

11 We believe that the bottom line is that there
12 is enough water in California to meet all legitimate
13 needs, if we are wise enough to take the right steps. In
14 our opinion, California CALFED alternative three is one of
15 those right steps.

16 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Haring.

17 Jim Peugh, San Diego Audubon; Norma Sullivan,
18 San Diego Audubon, and Carolyn Chase.

19 I hope --

20 MR. PEUGH: That is the right
21 pronunciation. Thank you.

22 MR. BODOVITZ: Thanks. Thank you.

23 MR. PEUGH: Yeah. I'm -- I'm really
24 concerned that -- that we spend a lot of effort looking at
25 conservation. We've already sucked the water and the

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1 wildlife out of the -- the Owens Valley, Mono Lake, the
2 Colorado River, and its formerly magni -- magnificent
3 Delta. We're discussing building the kind of
4 infrastructure that would allow us to suck the water and
5 the wildlife out of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley,
6 should we choose to do that. I don't have a lot of
7 confidence that we have the discipline to not do that.

8 I know the program has lots of words about
9 preserving habitat, but when -- on a dry year, when things
10 don't look good and our petunias are starting to dry up in
11 Southern California, I don't know if there's the
12 discipline to not turn the pumps on and to not suck it all
13 out.

14 As I was driving around today thinking about
15 this hearing, I was watching the water conservation. At
16 our last hearing, somebody from the City got up and said
17 that I was wrong, that we're conserving water like crazy.
18 You know, we have low-flush toilets and -- and shower
19 heads, low -- low-flow shower heads everywhere.

20 In other words, I was driving around today,
21 and I saw irrigation systems watering ice plant that
22 shouldn't be here, planted by CalTrans, ivy that takes up
23 a lot of water, and it was being watered in the rain.

24 I don't think we're very good at conservation.
25 I think -- I think, if you spend some of those billions of

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1 dollars on conservation, that you might totally replace
2 the need for this project.

3 We -- we use a lot of water. We live in a
4 desert, and we really need to know that.

5 As I -- I was driving by houses, looking at --
6 people talk about preserving water and -- and landscaping.
7 It looks to me like -- like fewer than one percent of the
8 houses in our neighborhood really have -- have water
9 conserving yards. I mean everywhere is grass and maybe a
10 little bit less grass in some places, but it's mostly
11 grass.

12 If you want assurances and we want security
13 about water supply, the real way to do it is not use so
14 much, and I hope that -- that -- that this project looks
15 into that really seriously.

16 I'm also concerned about some of the other --
17 the -- you know, that -- that water be available in the
18 Sacramento Valley, in the Delta itself for -- for
19 wildlife, and I hear about this pulse discharge system,
20 where we're going to be very clever, and we're going to
21 have computer programs to design when the water will come
22 out just exactly when we -- when the wildlife need it and
23 not a drop too much, and I don't think we're smart enough
24 to do that. I don't think we have the capability to do
25 that at all.

15

1 And I do hope that when you figure out who is
2 going to pay for this that the users actually pay for it,
3 that we don't figure out some way to socialize this and
4 spread it over all society so that -- that the cost
5 incentive doesn't encourage us to -- to do more
6 conservation.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Peugh.

9 Norma Sullivan, Carolyn Chase, Will Childs.

10 MS. SULLIVAN: Thank you. I'm also with
11 San Diego Audubon, and I agree with Jim about
12 conservation.

13 We were supposed to be doing such a great job
14 in San Diego. However, when we still allow sod planting;
15 when we subsidize a sod farm on -- on city property in
16 San Pasquale Valley; when we allow developers, like
17 Pardee, to come in and scrape off all the native
18 vegetation, the vegetation that protects the lands, and
19 then plant with ornamentals that take gallons of water and
20 plus pesticides, plus fertilizers, we're not doing much
21 about conservation. We haven't even begun.

22 We also subsidize high water consumptive crops
23 in California, such as alfalfa and cotton that shouldn't
24 be grown here. We're a desert.

25 So I think we should get serious about

16

1 conservation, before we -- we pour any more cement or dig
2 a peripheral canal. We just have other options. Those
3 things should be considered after these more realistic
4 options that would protect the water, protect the land,
5 protect the wildlife, and this is conservation, and I
6 think people could be taught that they really do live in a
7 desert.

8 The users should pay for their water, and
9 there should be no cap on the heavy users.

10 We're also concerned about -- water transfers
11 have to be handled very, very carefully. For example,
12 there's a potential water transfer from the
13 Imperial Valley to San Diego, and even before all the
14 studies are out, the -- the movers and shakers in the
15 San Diego Union are jumping on this as if it's the best
16 thing since sliced bread, but it could have a potential
17 terrible risk for the already endangered Salton Sea. That
18 is Colorado River water, after all.

19 So before the transfers can be -- proceed,
20 they should be -- there should be a scientific review
21 panel. The -- the consequences should be studied very
22 carefully before we jump into something like this.

23 I only hope, because we're -- we AUD -- in
24 Audubon are very concerned about the Salton Sea and the
25 terrible bird die-offs that are occurring there, and we've

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1 formed a committee and are working with Senator Boxer and
2 Senator Feinstein on a new bill to attempt to save the
3 Salton Sea.

4 We -- we hope that things will proceed slowly
5 enough that the consequences can be foretold before we
6 leap into transferring water to San Diego to water more
7 ornamentals and sod, rolled-on sod in my neighborhood. It
8 just makes me cry when I see that -- that truck coming
9 down. I have natives myself, and it's great, a lot less
10 work, too.

11 So conservation first, and this looks like
12 business as usual to me. I'm frankly alarmed that
13 Mike Madigan is co-chair; Vice-President of Pardee, I
14 think our biggest developer and who come in and scrape off
15 all the natives and plant the ornamentals, so certainly he
16 would be a inter -- vested -- have a vested interest in
17 business as usual, and the three alternatives look to me
18 all too much like business as usual at a time when we have
19 to change course.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Ms. Sullivan.

22 Carolyn Chase, Will Childs, Edward DiBella.

23 MS. CHASE: Hi. My name is Carolyn

24 Chase. I live in Pacific Beach, and I'm the chapter chair
25 of the San Diego/Imperial County Sierra Club. We have

18

1 12,000 members in San Diego and Imperial Counties.

2 I want to thank you for having this public
3 hearing in San Diego, but I'm dismayed that you did not
4 have more than one meeting in such a huge and highly
5 populated area, which is, more than anyplace else in the
6 United States, truly at the end of the pipeline.

7 Our watershed is the entire Sierra state water
8 system and the Colorado River running from here to the
9 upland streams and the far reaches of Colorado and the
10 great Rocky Mountains. Literally, we are downstream from
11 everybody.

12 Hopefully, this focuses our attention, but
13 we've all got to do something, don't we?

14 And I'm very heartened that -- that we -- we
15 all agree we've reached a point where we have to do
16 something.

17 Here's another thing I'd like to share with
18 you all that focused my attention, quoting from
19 Marc Reisner of "Cadillac Desert":

20 "What Federal water development
21 has amounted to, in the end, is a
22 uniquely productive, creative
23 Vandalism....The cost of all this...
24 was a vandalization of both our
25 natural heritage and our economic

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1 future, and the reckoning has not
2 even begun.

3 "Thus far, nature has paid
4 the highest price. Glen Canyon is
5 gone. The Colorado Delta is dead.
6 The Missouri bottomlands have
7 disappeared. Nine out of ten acres
8 of wetlands in California have
9 vanished and with them millions of
10 migratory birds. The great salmon
11 runs in the Columbia, the Sacramento,
12 the San Joaquin, and the dozens of
13 tributaries are diminished or
14 extinct....The Bureau of Reclamation
15 has set out to help the small farmers
16 in the West but ended up making a lot
17 of rich farmers even wealthier at the
18 small farmer's expense....We set out
19 to make the future of the American
20 West secure; what we really did was
21 make ourselves rich and our descendants
22 insecure....."....subsidies enrich big
23 farmers, whose excess production
24 depresses crop prices nationwide and
25 whose waste of cheap water increases

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PAGE 21

1 an environmental calamity that could
2 cost billions to solve...."
3 And guess who will pay. That's my comment.
4 "The West's" -- "increases an
5 environmental calamity that could cost
6 billions to the" -- "the" -- "the
7 West's dependence on distance and
8 easily disruptible dams and aqueducts
9 is just the more pal" -- "palpable
10 kind of vulner" -- "vulnerability it
11 has to face. The more insidious
12 forces - salt poisoning, groundwater
13 mining, the inexorable transformation
14 of the reservoirs from water to solid
15 ground, through saltation, are, in the
16 long run, a worse threat....Like so
17 many great and extravagant achievements,
18 from the fountains for Rome to the
19 Federal def" -- "deficit, the immense
20 national dam construction program that
21 allows civilization to flourish in the
22 deserts of the West continue the seeds
23 of disintegration; it is an old saw
24 about an empire's rising higher and
25 higher and having to fall farther and

21

PAGE 22

1 farther....the tragic and ludicrous
2 aspect is that who" -- "no one loses,
3 except the taxpayers and the
4 environment."
5 Has the paradigm changed?
6 I'm very disappointed that you've not even had
7 the courtesy, much less the duty, to consider the
8 conservation-efficiency alternative. You would think
9 that, in the interest of basic, politically-correct
10 lip-service to the environment, you would have had a
11 conservation-efficiency-only alternative, if only to prove
12 it wouldn't work.
13 So, therefore, you have to wonder, why didn't
14 you do it?
15 Could it be because one of the overriding
16 forces at work here is the continued promulgation of big,
17 concrete-water developers and bureaucracies which are
18 steadfastly dragging their heels into moving in the
19 21st century?
20 Where is the analysis of desalination of when
21 it will become cost effective?
22 I can tell you now that if you actually
23 evaluated enforcing the Clean Water Act you'd find that
24 desalination becomes quite competitive.
25 Where is the groundwater storage management

22

PAGE 23

1 commitment?
2 A grub bounds -- above-ground storage doesn't
3 make sense anymore with the vast population within the
4 coastal zone and the certainty of future earthquake
5 events.
6 God's natural storage, the Pacific Ocean, is
7 sitting within a mile, and yet you still propose to
8 destroy and degrade other inland watershed areas which are
9 already responding to a large number of stressors.
10 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Ms. Chase.
11 Will Childs, Edward DiBella, James Bond.
12 Let me again remind those of you coming -- who
13 have come in late, if you wish to speak, please fill out
14 one of these yellow cards on the table outside.
15 Mr. Childs.
16 MR. CHILDS: Yeah, I'm Will Childs from
17 Encinitas.
18 And thank you for the introduction about sea
19 water desalting, because that's my subject.
20 What I wanted to bring a -- or be aware that
21 sea water desalting costs have dropped dramatically in the
22 last few years. I think this should be looked at as an
23 alternative to South -- for Southern California, and here
24 are three items I'd like to leave with you.
25 One, in Tampa Bay, there were recent proposals

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PAGE 24

1 for a 25-million-gallon-per-day capacity at -- of sea
2 water desalting at \$700 an acre foot, which is probably
3 less than any other new water alternative.
4 And third -- the other item I'd like to point
5 out is that the energy requirements for sea water
6 desalting is less than the energy it takes to pump water
7 from Northern California to Southern California over the
8 Tehachapi Mountains.
9 So if you look at both -- all of those
10 considerations, then my recommendation is that sea water
11 desalting be put on an equal footing with all the other
12 alternatives, and I see there's nothing in the plan about
13 sea water desalting.
14 Thank you.
15 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Childs.
16 Edward DiBella, James Bond, Angel --
17 Angelica Villagra -- Villagrana, if I'm not mispronouncing
18 your name too badly, I hope.
19 Mr. DiBella.
20 MR. DiBELLA: Thank you. My name is
21 Edward DiBella. I'm just a concerned citizen and a
22 conservationist here in the County.
23 In preparation for my attendance tonight, I
24 checked the update of the California Water Plan, and I
25 wanted to come and tell you that I object to the

24

1 assumptions that are built into the plan. The plan
2 assumes a population growth rate of about -- well, it
3 assumes a population growth up to about 47, 48 million by
4 the year 2020.

5 I wanted to remind you and the members of this
6 audience that there's absolutely nothing inevitable about
7 that population growth. That growth will only happen if
8 the Federal Government fails to finally implement a
9 population stabilization policy in this country, including
10 both a reduction in immigration and a campaign on -- about
11 the far -- domestic fertility rate.

12 However, for the sake of argument, let us
13 assume that we do have about 48, 50 million people here by
14 about 2020, that one of the alternatives is implemented.
15 My question for you is this: In 20 years, what then?

16 What then will you come and sell to us?

17 You will have a demographic base of about
18 50 million people. People are not going to stop having
19 babies.

20 What are we going to do then?

21 You brought a very nice chart here tonight,
22 and I'm going to show you one, and I'll show this to the
23 members of the audience, as well.

24 This is a population growth chart for the
25 national figures, based on figures from the U.S. census.

25

1 The census publishes three different sets of projections,
2 a low, a middle, and a high. This chart, showing the
3 projection here, is the middle projection.

4 There are some demographers who think that we
5 are headed for the high and that this chart understates
6 the ultimate growth by 100 million people in the next
7 50 years.

8 Now the point I want to get across to you is
9 this: Until you do something about growth trajectories
10 like this, ultimately everything that we're talking about
11 tonight is ultimately meaningless.

12 Contrary to what your solution -- to the
13 solutions proposed in your literature, there is no
14 solution to our water problem and to many of our other
15 problems until we solve the population stabilization
16 problem.

17 Thank you very much.

18 And for anyone who is interested, I have extra
19 copies of these available, should you like to take some
20 home.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you. You did all
23 that and still stayed within three minutes, Mr. DiBella.
24 Thank you.

25 James Bond, Angelica Villagrana, Mark Stadler.

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1 MR. BOND: Good evening. My name is
2 James Bond, and I'm a City Council Member here. I sit on
3 the San Dieguito Water District, and I also sit on the
4 C.W.A. board, and I, like a number of the other speakers,
5 am concerned because of our position, which is at the end
6 of the pipeline.

7 There are a number of straws in that pipeline
8 before that water ever gets to something called
9 "San Diego Region," and we have, as a region and
10 independently, done what we can in aggressively pursuing
11 conservation, reclamation, recycling of water and the so
12 transfer that's talked good/bad about -- of conserved
13 water without following from the Imperial Irrigation
14 District.

15 This weekend I will attend a ground-breaking
16 ceremony for this region, for our reclamation plant which
17 have been approved, funded, going under construction right
18 now, so that we have less reliability upon the
19 Colorado River and the Bay-Delta.

20 And all the entire city, half of which is
21 Olivenhain Water District, half of it is San Dieguito
22 Water District, is -- has tiered water rates to encourage
23 conservation, if you use a little water rather than using
24 a lot of it.

25 But the big concern we have, if we're to

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1 continue our aggressive program of recycling, reclaiming
2 water is our salt content. Colorado River has high salt;
3 Bay-Delta does not. We've worked long and hard and
4 fruitlessly, I might add, with the Metropolitan Water
5 District, our supplier of water, to gain a 50 percent
6 blend, 50 Bay-Delta, 50 Colorado River water. We've not
7 been successful there.

8 And a comment that alarmed me a year or two
9 ago, about this whole situation, was an E.P.A. meeting
10 that I was at, where Peter McClavgan (phonetic) then with
11 C.W.A. was explaining their program for reclaimed water to
12 the Environmental Protection Agency folks, the local
13 regents -- local area board, and John Foley, who was the
14 chair of M.W.D. at that time, explained that both the
15 scarcity of the Bay-Delta water and the cost to
16 Metropolitan Water District made it appear that we
17 couldn't plan on a 15 to 25 percent blend that we had been
18 getting, so that concerned me a lot. If we are to live
19 within our 4.4 million California Colorado River amount
20 and conserve and recycle water, we need a good source of
21 water, less salt.

22 So as that is the case, down here at the end
23 of the pipeline, really, we really do feel that
24 alternative three is probably the best long-term
25 alternative for all concerned, whether you're talking

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PAGE 29

1 urban, ag, environment, whatever, the long-term, if we
2 look behind, next year, ten years from now, the long-term,
3 that's probably going to be the best for all of us, and I
4 certainly do hope you can support that.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Bond, and
7 thank you for your hospitality. We're enjoying meeting in
8 your council chambers tonight.

9 MR. BOND: My pleasure.

10 MR. BODOVITZ: Angelica Villagrana,
11 Mark Stadler, and Steve Arakawa.

12 MS. VILLAGRANA: Good evening. My name
13 is Angelica Villagrana representing the Greater San Diego
14 Chamber of Commerce.

15 And first of all, we would like to acknowledge
16 that a lot of work has gone into the process, and we think
17 you have a very good job -- done a very good job. We
18 leave -- do believe it's the most significant step yet to
19 what -- a comprehensive, long-term plan that will solve
20 the Bay-Delta environmental problem and also give us a
21 reliable water supply, since, as many speakers said, we're
22 at the end of the pipeline here.

23 We believe your solution must provide
24 comprehensive benefit in the near term, as well as the
25 long-term, for both water users and the environment.

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PAGE 30

1 I also would like to echo Mr. Bond's concern
2 on the blending of the water, and I don't want to repeat
3 myself, but we have a lot of problems with higher
4 salinity, which damages plumbing, affects taste, and also
5 inhibits our ability to reclaim water. That's a big
6 concern for the business community.

7 Another thing, we need to be assured that the
8 solution will make San Diego's water supply more reliable
9 and that there will be enough, and I say it again, high
10 quality water for our region. We must ensure that our
11 businesses keep moving to our region, expand the
12 businesses. Otherwise it's very difficult to make
13 intelligent plans for the future, but as advocates for
14 business, we also have to stress affordability.

15 Your solution will not be successful unless it
16 is cost effective, and I believe Mr. Larson pointed that
17 out earlier to you. If we have to spend a lot of money
18 for something that doesn't help us, it will be very hard
19 to get support from San Diego. We realize that it will
20 not come cheaply to solve the Bay-Delta, but we ask you to
21 please make a wise and prudent investment with our money.

22 Thank you very much.

23 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you.

24 Mark Stadler, Steve Arakawa, followed by
25 Bruce Campbell.

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PAGE 31

1 MR. STADLER: Good evening. I represent
2 the San Diego Water Authority.

3 I wanted, first, to assure you that the
4 San Diego County is using its existing water supplies
5 effectively. We estimate that by the year 2015 we will
6 gain, in this county, an additional hundred and
7 thirty-five acre feet per year through reuse and
8 conservation programs.

9 San Diego County Water Authority also is
10 strengthening our real -- reliable supply of imported
11 water through a conservation and transfer program with the
12 Imperial Irrigation District that will help to keep the
13 Colorado River aqueduct running at capacity. This is
14 important to CALFED, since one of your assumptions is that
15 the aqueduct will remain full.

16 Even with these efforts, though, San Diego
17 County needs a reliable, affordable supply of high quality
18 water from the Bay-Delta system. CALFED can give us such
19 a water supply if its preferred alternative provides
20 regulatory certainty, a feasible ecosystem restoration
21 program, and adequate facilities.

22 The CALFED preferred alternative should
23 increase the amount of capacity available to store excess
24 flows for use during times of shortage. However, CALFED
25 should carefully weigh the costs and benefits of

31

PAGE 32

1 additional storage and the willingness of beneficiaries to
2 pay, before deciding the optimal amount of storage for its
3 solution.

4 Development of an active water transfer market
5 involving the Bay-Delta is essential to ensuring a
6 reliable water supply for all uses. CALFED can foster
7 such development by providing adequate flexibility and
8 capacity in Delta channels and conveyance facilities.

9 CALFED's preferred alternative also should
10 encourage adoption of integrated and uniform rules
11 regarding approval of transfers and access to storage and
12 conveyance facilities.

13 CALFED's solution must improve the quality of
14 water diverted from the Bay-Delta. It should emphasize
15 development of source control measures for organic carbon,
16 pathogens, bromide, and other contaminants. This will
17 help urban water providers to control treatment costs,
18 heeds are customers concerns about the safety of their
19 water, and aid water reuse and groundwater recharge
20 programs.

21 The preferred alternative also should contain
22 a comprehensive ecosystem restoration program that takes
23 into account all factors contributing to degradation of
24 the Bay-Delta's habitat and wildlife species and is paid
25 for by the general public.

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1 Cost and assurances are critical to the CALFED
2 process. Assurances are essential in both the regional
3 and statewide levels. In San Diego County, this means
4 that, if we help to pay for a solution that improves the
5 quality and reliability of Delta water, we must receive
6 assurances that we will get a dependable supply of that
7 water.

8 As to costs, CALFED must provide a solution
9 that equitably allocates them to all who benefit from
10 Bay-Delta improvements. The preferred alternative also
11 must be cost effective, when compared with other water
12 supply development options.

13 San Diego County and the rest of
14 Southern California are willing to pay our share, but we
15 should not be expected to pay for benefits that other
16 areas of California realize from the solution.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Stadler.
19 Steve Arakawa of Metropolitan Water District,
20 Bruce Campbell, Del Hargis.

21 MR. ARAKAWA: Thank you. I'm Steve
22 Arakawa from the Metropolitan Water District, and we serve
23 27 member agencies in Southern California, across six
24 counties.

25 What I would like to highlight for you today

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1 is the fact that Metropolitan, from the very beginning of
2 CALFED, has supported that process as a best means for
3 consensus building, and we remain committed to that.

4 Now that the EIR is out, I think this is the
5 first opportunity that the board has -- that our board has
6 taken a -- a position on the CALFED process with the EIR,
7 and what I'd like to do is highlight the board policies
8 for you.

9 Number one, that the board remains committed
10 to supporting CALFED process as a best means for reducing
11 conflict.

12 As you've seen from the other speakers, we
13 have a number of competing interests here. We have the
14 environment. We have water users. We have the Delta
15 interests. And I believe that this process, better than
16 any other process in the past, is the best way to get the
17 interest groups together and try to resolve these
18 conflicts.

19 Second is that the Metropolitan board does not
20 have a preferred alternative at this time.

21 We commend you for the work that you've done
22 in the EIR to date, particularly laying out the technical
23 analysis, and we don't dispute any of that technical
24 analysis, and the performance of the alternative.

25 We do believe that the assurances issue is a

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1 key issue, and as we move further to determine who pays
2 for what, we want to know what our assurances are, and so
3 until we know those assurances, the Metropolitan board
4 does not support a preferred alternative at this time.

5 Regarding phasing and implementation, we think
6 that it's very important that there's a balance of
7 benefits for the environment and for water users and that
8 those benefits are staged over time so that both near-term
9 and long-term benefits are derived, and I think the
10 success of CALFED is going to -- is going to be very much
11 directed at how it creates near-term benefits, as well as
12 long-term benefits.

13 In terms of water management, our board policy
14 is that the preferred solution must be balanced, and it
15 must be a balance of water conservation, water recycling,
16 and storage, and management of wet-year water, so that we
17 can divert water in the wintertime or in the wet years,
18 when it's less harmful to fish, put it into storage, and
19 not have to strain the system in the dryer times or when
20 it's more harmful to fish.

21 We think that the water transfer market is
22 very crucial to meeting needs in the future, and the
23 improvements to the Delta are necessary in order to
24 provide that.

25 Water-use efficiency, we believe that you need

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1 to stick with the best management practices as the means
2 for implementing water conservation through CALFED and --
3 and not go towards a different type of approach, and in
4 terms of water quality, we think that's very key, both for
5 public health and also for water management. We can
6 stretch our local resources through recycling groundwater
7 management with lower salinity, and also, in terms of
8 drinking water quality, it's very clear that there's
9 information that shows that bromides need to be reduced in
10 the Delta system.

11 And costs obviously is a factor. It needs to
12 be allocated based on benefits, and with that I close out.

13 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Arakawa.

14 Bruce Campbell, Del Hargis, Keith Shillington.

15 MR. CAMPBELL: Good evening. My name is

16 Bruce Campbell. I'm here representing the
17 Southwest Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers.

18 Sustainable development is I think what we're
19 talking about tonight, and that's been defined as meeting
20 the needs of the present without sacrificing or
21 compromising the ability of future generations to meet
22 their own needs.

23 As I was growing up, one of the things that my
24 parents, and probably yours as well, were able to
25 guarantee me was that if I went out into the wilderness,

36

PAGE 37

1 If I went out to the local streams and rivers, that I
2 would be able to catch fish in the same way that my father
3 and his grandfather and his grandfather's grandfather were
4 able to do.

5 We are now on the verge of destroying an
6 entire fishery.

7 What I would like to -- to come out of this --
8 this process is the ability to have our cake and eat it,
9 too, and I think that your alternatives, the three
10 proposals that have been put forward, do not do that.
11 They do not guarantee my son that he'll be able to go out
12 to the same places that I went fishing and -- and do that
13 himself, and his children may not be able to either.

14 In a balanced ecosystem, the inflow of
15 resources to meet the needs of a population equals what
16 comes out of that.

17 One of the weaknesses in your plan, as I see
18 it right now, is an under emphasis on reclamation. We've
19 talked a lot about what Southern California cities have
20 done in terms of conservation. That's been great
21 throughout California for about the last decade or two.
22 There is still some work that can be done in that area as
23 far as agriculture is concerned.

24 Excuse me.

25 We have an under reliance in the

37

PAGE 38

1 Central Valley on drip-irrigation systems that could be
2 used for certain types of crops, and that would result in
3 a very substantial savings. We have only to look at the
4 example of Israel to see that that can be done.

5 Even in my own situation, when I first moved
6 into my current house, we had a -- an impact spray system
7 that the previous owner had put in. I put in a
8 drip-irrigation system, and I use about 25 percent of the
9 water that the house used at that time. A lot of what was
10 going down, you know, went up into the air in terms of
11 evaporation.

12 The Southwest Council of the Federation of Fly
13 Fishers supports the positions taken by the
14 Northwest Council of the Federation, the United Anglers
15 and the California Sport Fishing Protective Alliance in
16 opposing further diversions. We be -- we feel that no
17 additional diversion is needed, that conservation and
18 reclamation, properly practiced, will provide us the water
19 that we need.

20 It is a fact that the current reclamation
21 efforts in this area are not meeting with whole-hearted
22 success or not being well received by the population.

23 Agriculture is a logical alternative, because
24 plants love reclaimed water.

25 Thank you very much.

38

PAGE 39

1 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Campbell.

2 I have three more cards. Again, if any of you
3 wish to speak, please sign the cards.

4 Del Hargis, Keith Shillington, James Tolley.

5 MR. HARGIS: Good evening. I arrived
6 late this evening. I'm disappointed to say I wasn't able
7 to make it to the pre-hearing, the informal hearing, and I
8 arrived late to the formal hearing.

9 In the short amount of time that I've been
10 here, I've heard many people in this audience, people from
11 my community, step forward with different ideas and
12 proposals to be able to handle the -- the water situation.
13 Everything I've heard, from population control to doing
14 stuff with our ocean water.

15 My point and my position is -- is that I don't
16 think there is just one solution. It's easy to get tunnel
17 vision and say, "If we need more water, let's go somewhere
18 where there's water and steal it and bring it here."

19 It's a very easy route to go, but I do think
20 that there are many other options that are very viable,
21 very workable, and can be put into place very quickly.

22 One of them that I have not heard of this
23 evening mentioned yet is utilizing gray water for our
24 subsurface irrigation needs. I've heard -- people in my
25 community talked about the fact that we use a lot of water

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PAGE 40

1 for irrigation, that we are wasting water. I've heard
2 some say that we are doing a lot for conservation.

3 I don't think that we are doing a lot. We are
4 not doing enough.

5 Every single home could be supplied very cost
6 effectively, very simply, with an on-site filtration,
7 taking gray water and using it to irrigate their
8 landscape. This would reduce an average household's draw
9 on freshwater by 35 percent and would also reduce that
10 same average household's production of wastewater by about
11 55 percent. To me, it's a very, very, very simple, very
12 viable option. I know it's an option that you guys are
13 familiar with. I'm sure that people have told you about
14 it many times, and if I was here at the informal hearing,
15 I would have asked the question and expected a response as
16 to why that hasn't been looked at more seriously, because
17 I do think that using gray water is a very, very viable
18 option.

19 And so my comment to you this evening is to,
20 before making your final decision, really look at the many
21 other options that are available to you. Please do not
22 just get married to one option, and look very seriously at
23 water conservation first.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Hargis.

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1 I have just been told that there is a red van
2 in the parking lot with its lights on. If anyone here is
3 the parent of a red van that might have its lights on, you
4 may wish to go outside.

5 Keith Shillington, James Tolley, and
6 David Lichty.

7 MR. SHILLINGTON: As a native to
8 Northern California and an import some 25 years ago to
9 Southern California, this project is very interesting to
10 me.

11 Our existing economic system, which doesn't
12 yet account for environmental damage restoration system,
13 crashes and dies. The evidence is the increasing lists of
14 endangered, threatened, and extinct species, increasing
15 concentrations of pollutants and toxins, low water
16 quality, and increased untreated salt water intrusions
17 into the system, and we still pay for projects the same as
18 before.

19 Californians don't like limits. The human
20 species, in general, resists changes. Two human factors
21 are colliding with limits of freshwater supplies in the
22 southwestern United States. Our demand for water will
23 outstrip the ability for the watershed supply without
24 increased protection or enforcement. Having reviewed the
25 recent contract for the touted San Diego-Imperial County

41

1 water transfer gives me no assurances the key elements
2 will be -- will be delivered to solve the problems we face
3 in attempting to absorb the growth by continuing to spread
4 the water system inland.

5 Where do we go from here?

6 Well, one, require sufficient in-stream
7 freshwater flows to supply -- to supply ecosystems first.
8 This is critical to protecting the health of all
9 Californians who rely on this as a portion of their water
10 supply. The water politicians, regulators, and brokers
11 need to establish, with unbiased scientific and biological
12 data, the minimum flows required to keep the natural
13 systems healthy, and not to entertain a demand that will
14 kill those systems.

15 While CALFED is moving to support water
16 transfers as part of the solution, we should be reminded
17 that all the water moving goes to -- underlies all the
18 environmental damages that we were seeing today, so more
19 of the same kind of transfer would be wrong. Transfer and
20 the more marketing-oriented plans begin to introduce some
21 kind of water-rights pricing that can only be ethical if
22 they really protect an environment baseline and allow
23 prices to rise against it. Systems must be monitored over
24 time for health.

25 Require and maximize conservation on farms and

42

1 in cities. When we establish effective and
2 performance-based standards for users, conservation goals
3 are advanced. When we maximize con -- conservation, we
4 avoid building new, expensive, and damaging facilities,
5 and it's fruitless to build new facilities when the water
6 isn't there or the water isn't clean.

7 And protect the watersheds to produce -- to
8 reduce -- excuse me -- protect the watersheds to reduce
9 pollutant discharges into the systems.

10 But most importantly, we need to provide real
11 conservation efficiency alternatives an -- anal --
12 alternative analysis, so we can see our -- for ourselves
13 what's possible and what it will cost.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
15 Only then will it be fair to the public at large, to whom
16 you are ultimately asking to pay for your plans.

17 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you,
18 Mr. Shillington.

19 James Tolley, followed by David Lichty.

20 MR. TOLLEY: I'm James Tolley. I'm a
21 resident of Escondido, and I'm representing myself.

22 San Diego County probably has as bad a
23 water-supply situation of any county in the State, due to
24 the historical number of reasons.

25 It has implemented conservation and has done a

43

1 good job in conservation. The people have talked about
2 conservation and that we still see lawns and we still --
3 green grass, and we still see trees. That reflects the
4 opinion of the people.

5 If our elected officials tried to impose
6 tougher restrictions on it, they would be thrown out of
7 office, so the -- the rules you see for conservation are
8 what we have today, and we're conserving what we have
9 today. We need an additional water supply.

10 The CALFED Delta Program is -- through three
11 alternatives and variations within those, is providing
12 an -- an additional water supply that Southern California
13 and basically all of California needs.

14 We cannot depend upon conservation for solving
15 all of our water problems. We must have an additional
16 supply.

17 At the moment, I don't want to comment on
18 which of the three I think is better. I -- I don't have
19 that opinion right now, but we need an additional water
20 supply that the CALFED Bay-Delta Program has been studying
21 and is going to come up with a recommendation, and it
22 includes conservation the lavender or pink, or whatever --
23 is over there, has outlined in your programs.

24 So proceed to come up with one of the programs
25 that will provide an additional water supply for

44

PAGE 45

PAGE 46

1 California.

2 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Tolley.
3 David Lichty.

4 Last call for cards. We've got one more.
5 If you do wish to talk, please fill out a
6 card. This is the last call for them.

7 Mr. Lichty, followed by Susan Michel.

8 MR. LICHTY: My name is David Lichty, and
9 I am a native San Diegan. I appreciate the opportunity to
10 come here, in my hometown to speak to you tonight.

11 As a native, I've seen San Diego grow
12 dramatically in my lifetime, and I see people come here
13 from out of state, from places where weather like we're
14 having right now is normal, where it rains.

15 This is a desert, and growing up in the east
16 county, we had the opportunity to have native landscape.
17 It's nice. It's not what people are accustomed to, when
18 they move here from somewhere where it rains, but it's
19 what we've got.

20 The development that I see in town pretty much
21 takes out the native landscape, considers it weeds, and
22 replaces it with very nice trees. However, they don't
23 belong here. They are don't -- they're not native.

24 I would like to see a look at creating more of
25 an education for the public on what really is

45

1 conservation, because I think they are conserving, and
2 there are things they can do better.

3 Someone mentioned Israel. What they've done
4 in the desert is amazing.

5 I'd like to have us take a look at
6 reclamation. I'd like to have a look at desalinization,
7 and I also think it's important for us to fix the things
8 that we've made wrong in the Delta.

9 If the fish aren't working out the way things
10 are, we need to take a look at making that better, and I
11 particularly would like to see us take a look at
12 reclamation.

13 I have been using gray water in my yard. I --
14 you know, if I use it to wash out dishes or something, use
15 a biodegradable soap. I can water my garden with it, and
16 it works fine.

17 So I'd like to have us look at those
18 alternatives and see that as part of the -- the plan.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Lichty.

21 Susan Michel. I hope I'm pronouncing your
22 name correctly.

23 MS. MICHEL: Yes, you did.

24 My name is Susan Michel. I'm a native. I'm
25 from east San Diego County, and I first want to express I

46

PAGE 47

PAGE 48

1 am so proud of my fellow San Diegans, with such a strong
2 turnout today. I do my Ph.D. work in environmental law
3 and policy, and I'm just so happy to see this. I -- I
4 really think this is wonderful to see, because usually
5 when I mention CALFED to many academics who I work with at
6 U.C. -- University of California, San Diego, they go,
7 "Huh? What's CALFED?"

8 So I can safely say that many of our citizens
9 are much more informed than some of our professors at
10 U.C.S.D.

11 One of the things that I have not heard -- and
12 I came late, due to traffic -- that -- that I -- I have
13 not heard is -- and Robert Gottlieb writes about it. He
14 is -- well, was a professor at U.C.L.A. -- is that you --
15 that we should consider limiting urban expansion and
16 growth as an alternative.

17 When you have urban expansion and growth, you
18 have more -- you have a need for more water transfers and
19 supplies to support -- support that urban growth. I've
20 heard other -- other people say that it destroys the
21 native vegetation. That's true.

22 And then there's another problem that a lot of
23 San Diegans aren't aware of, that when you have more urban
24 growth, you have more coastal water pollution.

25 One of the causes of coastal water pollutions

47

1 and why our beaches are being closed is urban polluted
2 runoff. Pollution accumulates on the soils and in our
3 storm-water systems, and then it just runs off during the
4 storms, and that's why our beaches are closed, so that was
5 one of the things I would like to put out, is we should
6 consider, and we can make a statement in San Diego County.
7 We should not only be here at these meetings, but we
8 should go to our city council meetings and let our local
9 city councils know that we do not want more urban growth;
10 we do not want more coastal water pollution; we do not
11 want more air pollution and more traffic.

12 So I just would like to throw that as an
13 alternative, not just for CALFED, but I think for local
14 San Diegans to consider, too.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. BODOVITZ: Thank you, Ms. Michel.

17 This has been a very informative and brisk
18 hearing tonight. Thank you all, for coming, very much,
19 particularly on a bad night.

20 If you wish to stay and discuss, with the
21 staff people, questions or comments in addition to this,
22 please feel free to do so, but the formal hearing is
23 adjourned.

24 (End of proceedings: 8:08 p.m.)

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48

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CERTIFICATE
OF
CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER

I, MELINI A. CARREON, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, License No. 7511, do hereby certify:

That the proceedings of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Public Hearing, made at the time and place therein set forth, was recorded stenographically by me and thereafter the public speaker portion of the proceedings was transcribed into typewriting under my direction and supervision.

That the foregoing transcript is a full, true, and correct record of the public speaker portion of the proceedings.

I further certify that I am neither counsel for nor related to any party to said action nor in any way interested in the outcome thereof.

EXECUTED this 14th day of May 1998,
at Yorba Linda, California.


MELINI A. CARREON, CSR No. 7511